

REGULAR SESSION RUSH COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS JULY 16, 2012

The Rush County Board of Commissioners met in regular session, Monday, July 16, 2012 with Commissioners, Marvin Cole, Ken Masters, Deborah Adams, Auditor, and Leigh Morning, County Attorney in attendance. Commissioner Tom Barnes was on vacation.

Commissioner Ken Masters called the meeting to order, Marvin Cole made the motion to approve the minutes of the July 2, 2012 meeting as presented. Ken Masters seconded the motion. Motion carried.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Sandy Fussner, Chamber Director, informed the commissioners that the Rush Fest is September 29, 2012. Fussner asked if the courthouse could be open for tours between the hours of 11:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. Judge Hill has offered to be available for the tours of all three floors and the court rooms. Marvin Cole made the motion to allow the courthouse to be open and that no offices would be open to the public during this time. Ken Masters seconded the motion. Motion carried.

PROSECUTOR

Prosecutor Phil Caviness appeared before the commissioners to notify them of the need to replace Child Support Attorney Grant Reeves. Reeves will be leaving employment of the county July 18, 2012. Marvin Cole made the motion to approve the hiring of a replacement. Ken Masters seconded the motion. Motion carried.

I-T

I-T Technician Randy Herbert, reported that Nine Star has connected fiber optic across the river to the ECDC office. Herbert asked permission to connect the ECDC office to the fiber of the courthouse. This would be a benefit to Jim Finan, ECDC Director and aid with him doing his job.

John Saxon questioned Herbert if ECDC would compensate the county for their use of the fiber. Herbert stated that this was between the ECDC and the Fiber Board

AMERICAN DISABILITY ACT (A.D.A.)

Marvin Cole made the motion to approve the public meeting to be held August 21, 2012 to answer questions regarding a proposed Self Evaluation and Transition Plan. Ken Masters seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Marvin Cole made the motion to approve and sign the On-Call ADA Facility Evaluations and Consultation Services Task Order #2 and #3. Ken Masters seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Jerry Sitton reported that the to the necessary \$100,000.00 project goal. The county council approved \$50,000.00 from the 2012 Cum Cap Fund budget. Sitton asked the commissioners to consider transferring \$25,000.00 ear marked "Other County Projects" in the Capital Projects Plan and to amend the plan. Leigh Morning assured the commissioners that the plan could be amended. Deborah Adams assured the commissioners that a transfer could be done and the county would not need to further search for monies.

AMBULANCE COMMITTEE

The ambulance committee will meet today at 4:00 at the Chamber of Commerce office. Leigh Morning indicated that she had received an email from Tom Barnes recommending Ken Masters to the committee. Marvin Cole made the motion to appoint Ken Masters. Ken Masters seconded the motion. Motion carried.

COURTHOUSE

Surveyor Marvin Rees reported on the repairs necessary to the courthouse flag pole. Marvin Cole made the motion to get the replacement cost to the auditor. Ken Masters seconded the motion. Motion carried.

SHERIFF

Sheriff Jeff Sherwood reported forty-five (45) inmates currently incarcerated in the Rush County jail. Sherwood updated the commissioners on the Code Red system.

Sherwood indicated that payroll would be high due to the Rush County Fair and the recent storms.

Sherwood apologized for the early hiring of part time jail employee Ryan Marrow. Sherwood did receive the authority to hire Marrow on a motion from Marvin Cole. Ken Masters seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Discussion was held on the animal shelter. Leigh Morning stated that she has received proposed language from Julie Newhouse.

Sherwood reported on the large jail antenna damage. There will be a \$1,000.00 insurance deductible and he has already discussed with the auditor to pay.

Marvin Cole made the motion to sign the Equitable Sharing Agreement and Certification regarding a drug case that involved seized monies. Ken Masters seconded the motion. Motion carried. The monies will be quietused into the Forfeiture Fund.

SHERIFF FUEL BIDS

The sheriff fuel sealed bids for the 2013 calendar year were opened at 9:30 a.m. by County Attorney Leigh Morning. One (1) bid was received. The bid was received from Harvestland Co-Op for 30,000 lead free gallons gasoline, 87 octane rating, \$2.70 per gallon, 18 cents tax to be added on top.

Marvin Cole made the motion to approve and accept the bid submitted by Harvestland Co-Op. Ken Masters seconded the motion. Motion carried.

EMPLOYEE HEALTH INSURANCE

Marvin Cole made the motion to approve HCC Life Insurance for the Aggregate Stop/Loss Reinsurance for the county. Ken Masters seconded the motion. Motion carried.

HIGHWAY

Highway Superintendent Jerry Sitton that notification was received July 2, 2012 of the county to receive \$566,750.00 funds to finish the Carthage Pike project. The additional monies will help ensure the stabilization of the river.

Sitton submitted the highway June monthly report for the commissioners to review.

EMA

EMA Director Chuck Kemker reported that a webinar on the Indiana water shortage and draught will be made for public view at 11:00 and 12:30

AUDITOR

Auditor Deborah Adams received approval on payroll claims for the period ending July 20, 2012 on a motion from Marvin Cole. Ken Masters seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Biweekly claims submitted July 10, 2012 were approved on a motion by Marvin Cole. Ken Masters seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Adams discussed receiving approval of a homestead verification service offered through Maximus. Adams reported that under HEA 1344 in 2009 created incentives for auditors to go after homestead deductions fraud. Taxpayers caught claiming deductions inappropriately are liable for up to three years of back taxes, as well as a 10% penalty on the amount owed.

Adams explained that Maximus will charge \$2.00 per homestead parcel. They will review the 2011 pay 2012 data. Rush County has approximately 4,928 homestead parcels. The monies collected will be placed into a non-reverting fund.

Adams explained that if the fund falls short in the fraud collections, Maximus will only receive what is collected. Adams noted that she has waited until the almost the end of the pink

slip period of the homestead verification form, thus allowing property owners to come forward. Her office staff works diligently on maintain and verifying deduction forms. Adams did finish that the contract had yet to be reviewed by the county attorney and she would like to have her final review of the language. Maximus has a longstanding relationship with Rush county providing excellent services.

Marvin Cole made the motion to approve the recommended Maximus Homestead deduction verification services, contingent that the contract meets the county attorney's approval. Ken Masters seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Adams reported that the notice for the commissioner's appointment to Hospital Board will be advertised in the Rushville Republican newspaper July 17 until August 10. The notice will also appear on the county website.

Adams questioned the commissioners and the county attorney regarding two City of Rushville parcels that had previously been a part of the 2011 commissioner's certificate sale and then removed and assigned to the city. Leigh Morning informed Adams that due to tax deed errors, the two parcels (321 West 7th Street and 223 North Main Street) will need to be reassigned back to the county and placed back on the 2012 tax sale.

MISC.

- Ken Masters announced that there will be a personnel policy handbook committee meeting Tuesday, August 31 at 1:00 p.m. in the county council room
- Treasurer's June monthly report was reviewed
- EMS run reports were received and reviewed from Rush Memorial Ambulance Service; Carthage Volunteer Fire Department and Anderson Twp. Volunteer Fire Department

Motion to adjourn was received from Marvin Cole. Ken Masters seconded the motion. Motion carried.

<u>/s/Tom Barnes</u>	<u>/s/Marvin Cole</u>	<u>/s/Ken Masters</u>
Tom Barnes, Chairman	Marvin Cole	Ken Masters

ATTEST:

/s/Deborah C. Adams
Deborah C. Adams, Auditor